

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Advisory Action mailed November 1, 2006 and the Final Office Action mailed August 7, 2006. Following entry of this amendment, claims 2-10, 12-21, 23-32, 34-43 and 46-54 remain pending in the application. Claims 8, 9, 19, 20, 30, 31, 41, 42, 44, 51 and 52 are independent.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that independent claims 8, 9, 19, 20, 30, 31, 41, 42, 51 and 52 are allowable. In the recent Advisory Action, the Examiner also indicated that dependent claims 2-7, 10, 12-18, 21, 23-29, 32, 34-40 and 43, which were previously amended to depend from one of allowed independent claims 8, 19, 30 and 41, were also allowable.¹ In response, applicants have canceled claims 44-45 and have amended claims 46-50 and 53-54 to depend ultimately from allowed independent claim 51.


All amendments made herein are fully supported by the originally-filed specification and/or drawings of the present application and place the application in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added. The claim amendments made herein do not represent acquiescence in the Examiner's rejections, but rather are made only to expedite prosecution of the present application. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of any previously presented claims in one or more continuation applications.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that each of currently pending claims 2-10, 12-21, 23-32, 34-43 and 46-54 be allowed. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (212) 326-3939 if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining issues.

No fees are believed due with this submission. However, should any additional fees be required, please charge such fees to Jones Day deposit account no. 50-3013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 7, 2006



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¹ Applicants note that the November 1, 2006 Advisory Action incorrectly states that claims "44-54" are rejected, even though the August 7, 2006 Final Office Action indicated that independent claims 51 and 52 are allowable. This appears to be a clerical error.

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